



California Postsecondary Education Commission

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CPEC Assesses College Graduate Shortage and Will Consider Possible Solutions on June 5 and 6, 2007

SACRAMENTO — June 4, 2007 — The California Postsecondary Education Commission is meeting to consider the impact on California of a growing shortage of college graduates and to recommend policy options, as well as to entertain presentations from higher education experts.

On Tuesday, June 5, Dr. David Long, California's newly appointed Secretary of Education, will outline the Governor's vision for higher education and its role in improving California's future.

The Commission will also hear a presentation that day from Dr. Mark Baldassare, President and CEO, of the Public Policy Institute of California highlighting the concerns of California citizens regarding access to colleges and universities for themselves and their children.

Additionally, the Commission will review and take action on reports concerning legislation, the state's budget for higher education, educational program reviews, and faculty salaries.

On Wednesday, June 6, the Commission will hear presentations on California's shortage of college graduates, trends in educational attainment, and the impacts on income growth in California's workforce. As part of the Commission's commitment to improving higher education performance and accountability, Dr. Richard W. Moore, Professor of Management at California State University, Northridge, and the Commission's staff will present two reports. These reports assess the contribution of California's public colleges and universities to increasing the number of college degrees earned in the State, and raising its per capita income.

Both studies can be found on the Commission's web page at:

College Degree Attainment - http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0706/Item_11.pdf

Per Capita Income - http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0706/Item_12.pdf

The Commission will also be introduced to its new Internet-based system, the School to Employment Pathways System (or STEPS), that helps connect college students to career opportunities and employers to the colleges producing the graduates they need to remain competitive in a global economy.

The Commission streams its meeting on the Internet at www.cpec.ca.gov , where links to its agenda and associated reports can be found.

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The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. The Commission's primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities.